

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UR

SUBJECT: PREPARATIONS FOR 25TH CONGRESS: FEBRUARY 20 CC

PLENUM

1. FOLLOWING THE PATTERN OF THE 24TH CONGRESS (AND, WE PRESUME, EARLIER CONGRESSES -- ALTHOUGH OUR FILES DO NOT GO BACK THAT FAR), THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE HELD A PLENARY MEETING FEBRUARY 20 TO APPROVE THE TWO MAJOR REPORTS TO THE 25TH CONGRESS, BREZHNEV'S CC REPORT AND KOSYGIN'S REPORT ON THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN. PRAVDA'S FEBRUARY 21 TREATMENT OF THE PLENUM IS VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL IN WORDING AND FORMAT TO THE COVERATE GIVEN THE CC PLENUM WHICH PRECEDED THE 24TH CONGRESS (SEE PRAVDA OF MARCH 23, 1971).

2. PRAVDA'S BRIEF "INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT" FEBRUARY 21 ON THE PREVIOUS DAY'S CC MEETING STATES THAT:

-- A CC PLENUM WAS HELD FEBRUARY 20;

-- THE PLENUM CONSIDERED THE CC REPORT TO THE 25TH CONGRESS, AND CC GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV MADE A SPEECH ON THIS SUBJECT;

-- THE PLENUM UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE CC REPORT;

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-- THE PLENUM ALSO CONSIDERED THE DRAFT REPORT ON THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS KOSYGIN MADE A SPEECH ON THIS SUBJECT;

-- THE PLENUM UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE REPORT ON THE PLAN;

-- WITH THIS THE PLENUM CONCLUDED ITS WORK.

3. THEN COME THE TWO TERSE CC RESOLUTIONS APPROVING IN ONE SENTENCE EACH THE TWO REPORTS. AS IN 1971, THERE IS ALSO A BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE CENTRAL AUDITING COMMISSION MET FEBRUARY 20 TO APPROVE THE REPORT TO BE DELIVERED TO THE CONGRESS ON ITS BEHALF.

4. PRAVDA FEBRUARY 21 ALSO CARRIES THE FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ARRIVAL OF FOREIGN DELEGATIONS TO THE CONGRESS. KUNAYEV, POLYANSKIY AND DEMICHEV ARE THE ONLY POLITBURO MEMBERS LITED AS PART OF THE SOVIET WELCOMING TEAM (INCLUSION OF POLYANSKIY AND DEMICHEV IS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST BECAUSE BOTH ARE RUMORED TO BE ON THE WAY OUT).

5. AS OF MID-MAY FEBRUARY 21, WORKMEN WERE STILL PUTTING UP FLAGS, BANNERS AND POSTERS IN DOWNTOWN MOSCOW. THUS FAR WE HAVE NOTICED ONLY ONE NEW LEADERSHIP PORTRAIT IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA: A MEDIUM-SIZED PHOTO OF BREZHNEV ON THE BUILDING OF THE MINISTRY OF THE MARITIME FLEET, FACING DZERZHINSKIY SQUARE.
STOESSEL

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